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THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW. In 1891, in the December number, there appeared a scurrilous letter from a person named Rogers, who assailed the patriotism of the Jews in the United States, claiming that none of them participated in the Civil War. I took up the challenge, and after three years' hard work, issued the book entitled *The American Jew, as Soldier, Patriot and Citizen*, a six hundred-page book wherein I conclusively showed that American citizens of Jewish faith had, from the earliest days of the Republic up to that date, and of course since, done their duty, and to a large extent, compared to their number, have done more than those of any other faith in the country.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

SIMON WOLF.

### A QUESTION FOR SECRETARY BAKER

SIR,—On the 5th of this month appeared in our local daily a communication purporting to be from Washington, D. C., which stated that it cost this Government 14.3 times as much to maintain a soldier as it does the Imperial German Government. After meditating about the matter, I telephoned the Editor, who informed me that the facts were obtained from the Bureau of Information at Washington.

If Germany, shut in as she is from the commerce of the world, can maintain 14.3 soldiers at their present standard of efficiency for what it costs us to maintain one, it occurs to me that this means either retrenchment, bankruptcy, or defeat—perhaps all three; for German success in this war means our bankruptcy, and bankruptcy means enforced retrenchment.

With but eight per cent of the money appropriated for our army expended for purposes requisite to health, comfort and efficiency, and ninety-two per cent for purposes bearing no relation thereto; and with the continuation of our present liberal pension system, bankruptcy seems to me inevitable should the war be prolonged.

This matter, Mr. Editor, seems to me of such prime import that I trust you will pardon me for asking that you give it your attention in one of those pungent editorials which I have found so pregnant with the essentials of forcible English, viz.: smoothness of construction, clarity of expression and accuracy of conclusion.

CRAWFORDSVILLE, IND.

L. J. COPPAGE.

### COLONEL WHITE HOUSE AGAIN

SIR,—Nothing has given me greater satisfaction and pleasure for a long time than your editorial in the December number of THE NORTH AMERICAN.

Nothing have I resented more than that my country should be represented—if one may misuse the word—by the man who is but a voice and “nothing else,” unelected, appointed to no recognized function, and responsible to the country in no way. You have voiced my thoughts so that the whole country may hear, if it will only listen, and I thank you sincerely. In slight measure of appreciation I am sending you by separate cover something I have written on war subjects, a small book